

13-DIGIT ISBNs

BACKGROUND

The ISBN is being expanded from 10 digits to 13 in order to increase the numbering capacity of the ISBN system. The date for fully adopting ISBN-13 is January 1, 2007. The revised International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard is due to be published early in 2005. Publishers then have two years to implement ISBN-13 fully into all aspects of their businesses.

For the interim period between 2005 and 2007, publishers are encouraged to supply both an ISBN-10 and an ISBN-13 for the same manifestation, based on guidelines issued by the International ISBN Agency (IIA). In response to the desire of publishers to begin supplying ISBN-13 prior to 2005 to be included in Cataloging in Publication (CIP) data for books to be published in the interim period and beyond, the Library of Congress, after consulting with some of the largest users of the MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data, began accommodating ISBN-13 on October 1, 2004. Beginning in 2007 publishers will supply only ISBN-13.

PRE-2007 IMPLEMENTATION (October 1, 2004-January 1, 2007)

Prior to October 1, 2004 no 13-digit ISBNs were added to bibliographic records issued by the Library of Congress, either through the CIP Program or the Preassigned Control Number Program (PCN), whether occurring in records used for copy cataloging, or whether printed in a book. Beginning October 1, 2004 LC has accepted both an ISBN-13 and an ISBN-10 for the same manifestation, whether through the CIP Program, the PCN Program, whether occurring in records used for copy cataloging, or whether printed in a book.

For CIP records created prior to October 1, 2004, the Cataloging in Publication Division will entertain the standard pre-publication change requests to 10-digit ISBNs. It will not, however, accept requests to add 13-digit ISBNs to records created prior to that time. Publishers are encouraged to add such numbers in the CIP data they print in their books. The guidelines for doing so, issued by the IIA, call for grouping the pairs of numbers by manifestation, giving the ISBN-13 first with each number preceded by a print constant as follows:

ISBN-13: 978-1-873671-00-9

ISBN-10: 1-873671-008

Note that in cases of multiple pairs, these same guidelines call for the pairs to be printed on separate lines down the page one pair after the other. This is in contrast to the style used in CIP data (printed across the page as part of a single paragraph, each instance of an ISBN separated by a space-dash-space), which is designed to meet publishers' concerns to conserve space. At the time the bibliographic record is updated to reflect the actual book, LC staff will add any ISBN-13 printed in the book.

For CIP and other bibliographic records created after October 1, 2004 and before January 1, 2007, LC will group pairs of ISBN-13 and ISBN-10 by manifestation in repeated MARC 21 020 fields, with the ISBN-13 input preceding the ISBN-10, each number qualified as appropriate. The pair related to the manifestation represented by the bibliographic record will be given first. Although all ISBN pairs provided by publishers will be input into the bibliographic record, because of space concerns, no more than two pairs will be printed in the CIP data supplied to publishers to be printed in the book on the verso of the title page. This limitation is needed because of space concerns, since the CIP Division has agreed temporarily to follow the style for printing ISBN pairs recommended by the IIA. To indicate that additional ISBN pairs are in the bibliographic record beyond those provided in the printed CIP data, "[etc.]" will be printed on the line under the last printed ISBN.

For records that do not contain one or more pairs of ISBN-13 and ISBN-10, the CIP data supplied to publishers to be printed in the book will continue to reflect the current style, i.e., printed across the page as part of a single paragraph, each instance of an ISBN separated by a space-dash-space.

FULL IMPLEMENTATION (January 1, 2007-)

Upon full implementation of ISBN-13, LC anticipates that publishers will supply only an ISBN-13 for each manifestation and that the style for printing multiple instances will revert to the current CIP style, i.e., printed across the page as part of a single paragraph, each instance separated by space-dash-space and with the current print constant "ISBN" preceding each instance.

ISBN-13 stats from October through December 2004:

Enc8 (pre-publication):

ISBN-13 All CIPs total:	281
ISBN-13 ECIP total:	226
ISBN-13 OCIP total:	55

Enc5 (pre-publication):

ISBN-13 EPCN total:	66
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ISBN-13s added to existing records:

ISBN-13 NCIP total:	37
ISBN-13 ECIP (not Enc8) total:	7
ISBN-13 OCIP (not Enc8) total:	6
ISBN-13 EPCN (not Enc5) total:	3